

From cheerleader to floor leader

SEE BACK PAGE

Peace Corps requires a special character

SEE PAGE 7



'Watchmen' is for the readers

SEE PAGE 9



The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary — Est. 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

THE CENTURY PROJECT



CATLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

Students observe the Century Project, a controversial photography exhibit currently on display at in the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

Photo show opens amid debates after being moved to the Muscarelle

By JULIA RIESENBERG
The Flat Hat

Mere days before the Sex Workers' Art Show comes to the College of William and Mary March 23, a traveling photography exhibit that taps into the more private, less sexualized and deeply emotional aspects of female nudity went on display at the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

The Century Project, photographer Frank Cordelle's collection of nude women ages 0-100, is on display from March 16-20. The College's administration made the decision to move the show from the Sadler Center earlier this year.

Considering the controversy surrounding the project, students are understandably curious. Aly Cockerill '10 approached the exhibit without any preconceived notions.

"I was intrigued by all of the girls who were

photographed under the age of eighteen because I know that that's the core of the controversy," Cockerill said. "But I didn't go in with a strong opinion."

The models featured in Cordelle's exhibit represent a diversity of not just age, but also race, class, body type and health status. Many of the women are survivors of abuse or physical and mental diseases, the details of which they explain in personal statements alongside their images. Their bodies often bear the signs of these experiences. The effect is that Cordelle's photos tell each model's story with a level of photographic intensity.

ONLINE VIDEO

See an interview with Century Project founder Frank Cordelle.
flatthatnews.com

"If you look at the picture, the focus is on the energy of the woman, and the message trying to be communicated by the photographer, and not that she's in the nude," Cockerill said after an hour of viewing the Project. "The reason all of the women are nude in the exhibit is that you're talking about intimate subjects ... that intimacy of not having clothes on allows women to discuss these more personal experiences."

When Cordelle began photographing nude women 25 years ago, he didn't expect to become, as he describes it, an ambassador into the world of women.

"I've learned so much about women as a result of this project," Cordelle said. "I've learned a lot about men, too. I've learned a lot about society, and I've learned a lot about me. It's been a

See CENTURY page 5

SA Senator Pinsker resigns, citing health

SA VP candidate Ryan Ruzic planned to charge Pinsker with impeachment

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat News Editor

College of William and Mary Student Assembly Sen. Matt Pinsker '09 resigned his position Sunday evening, citing health concerns. Hours earlier, Sen. Ryan Ruzic J.D. '11 announced plans to introduce a bill to the senate Tuesday calling

for Pinsker's impeachment.

In the bill, Ruzic alleged that Pinsker used deceptive methods and violated SA election bylaws in providing The Flat Hat with the names of students who planned to run for SA president before the permitted time period. The names were not supposed to be made public until 10 days before the March 26 election.

Ruzic was one of three candidates named. Before the final list was made public Tuesday, Ruzic decided not to run for president. On Wednesday, Ruzic was named SA presidential candidate Sarah Rojas '10 new running mate after Austin Wiese '10 dropped off the ticket for personal reasons.

Pinsker said his decision to re-

sign was not related to the impeachment bill that had been announced hours earlier.

"I have been diagnosed with kidney failure, which is an extremely serious, painful and time-consuming condition," Pinsker said in a statement to The Flat Hat.

See PINSKER page 3

Endowment hit hard by economy

Recession causes College to lose approx. \$100 million

By JESSICA KAHLENBERG
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The College of William and Mary's endowment decreased by 17.2 percent from \$580 million to approximately \$480.3 million between July and December of last year.

Vice President of Finance Sam Jones said the endowment's declining value was caused by the current economic crisis.

"What we're experiencing is what all markets are experiencing. We really had no place to hide because the decline was so severe and so broad. It goes back to the decrease in the national and global economy because that's where peoples' money is invested," Jones said.

Jones said there is no way to tell how long the decline will continue.

"It all depends on what happens with the economy," Jones said. "A lot is being done on the national level, but the question is when and if that will take hold. It's

See ENDOWMENT page 6

Professor named dean of law school

By IAN BRICKEY
Flat Hat Staff Writer

College of William and Mary President Taylor Reveley appointed current law professor Davison M. Douglas as the next dean of the College of William and Mary School of Law.

Douglas, the current Arthur B. Hanson professor of law, has taught at the College since 1990 and directed the College's Institute of Bill of Rights from 1997-2004.

"In my judgement, Dave Douglas will be one of the truly great deans in the long history of the country's oldest law school," Reveley said.

The position of dean has been officially vacant since Reveley's appointment as College president in February 2008.

Chancellor professor of law Lynda Butler has served as the interim since Reveley's selection.

The College's Board of Visitors is set to confirm Douglas at their April meeting.

He will take office July 1.



PHOTO TAKEN FROM PICASA

KATE PUZEY: 1984-2009

Alumna in Peace Corps found dead

By MIKE CRUMP
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

All her life Kate Puzey '06 had been an intrepid traveler, attending high school in Japan, and studying abroad in France. The young sociology major left the United States shortly after graduation to serve in the Peace Corps as an English teacher in the rural Beninese village of Badjoude.

Last Thursday she was found dead outside her home in what some have speculated to be a murder. Neither the U.S. State Department nor the government of Benin have confirmed the cause of death.

Puzey was 24.

At the College, Puzey was heavily involved in community service, tutoring local children and serving on the board for Project Phoenix, a partnership program between the

College and local middle schools.

"When Kate told me about her acceptance to [the] Peace Corps I was thrilled for her," Office of Student Volunteer Services Director Drew Stelljes said. "I was not surprised that she was accepted. In fact, the Peace Corps recruiter raved about her potential. She had an array of international experience and a thirst for development work and teaching."

Stelljes said he remembers her fondly.

"Kate was a dedicated volunteer, a wonderful mentor to children, a top notch scholar, but most importantly she was a very caring person," he said. "Kate had an infectious smile, a mature manner and a deep sense of life purpose and calling. She exemplified all that makes William and Mary a unique and singular university. She was William and Mary."



Puzey lived and worked for the Peace Corps in Badjoude, Benin, about six hours north of the capital.

See PUZEY page 5

GRAPHIC BY ALEX GUILLÉN — THE FLAT HAT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor where the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.


Weather

Friday




High 53°
Low 35°

Saturday



High 56°
Low 35°

Sunday



High 64°
Low 42°

Source: www.weather.com

News in Brief

Book by English professor wins award

“The Story of Joy” by College of William and Mary English professor Adam Potkay was recently named a co-winner of the Harry Levin Prize awarded by the American Comparative Literature Association.

Potkay, recipient of the Plumeri Award for Faculty Excellence, was designated the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Humanities in August 2008.

The full title of his winning book is “The Story of Joy: from the Bible to Late Romanticism.” It was published in 2007 by the Cambridge University Press and outlines an intellectual and literary history of joy, namely the treatments of joy in works of literature, philosophy and religion.

College involved in state Supreme Court initiative

The Institute of Bill of Rights Law at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law and the National Center for State Courts based in Williamsburg, Va. announced March 6 the formation of a new joint project — the Supreme Court Initiative.

The initiative will undergo projects to enhance the visibility of state supreme courts and create vehicles for public education about their work. It will do so by forming a website, convening task forces and running conferences that focus attention on state supreme courts.

Business school receives A+

The faculty of the College of William and Mary Mason School of Business received a perfect grade from students for a second straight year.

The Mason undergraduate program ranked 20th among all schools and 10th among public schools included in Business Week’s 2009 Best Undergraduate Schools ranking. The program was also featured in the ranking as one of the best schools for return on investment in the accompanying story, “Return on Investment: Public Schools Rock.”

The 2009 ranking included 101 schools. The faculties of 20 schools received perfect marks of “A+,” with the College being one of only two public schools to receive this mark.

Global Inquiry Group formed

A new multidisciplinary study group has been established with the intent to explore the use of algae as a source of biofuels. The group was formed by professor Elizabeth Canuel of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and colleagues, and funding was received from the College of William and Mary.

Their “exploratory Global Inquiry Group,” or e-GIG, grew out of the collaborators’ ongoing interests in developing sustainable sources of energy and lessening the environmental impacts of energy use.

Joining Canuel in the projects are professors from the departments of chemistry, applied science, physics, marine science, economics, public policy, biology, environmental and aquatic animal health.

— by Bertel King, Jr.

For more News in Brief, look online at flatthatnews.com

Online-Only Content

TUBE TALK
For ‘Lost,’ it’s back to the past

by Summer Finck

First things first: Lapidus is the MAN. Last season, after Faraday asked him where the helicopter had crashed, he said, “Crash? The hell kind of pilot d’you think I am? I put her down safe and sound right over there.” Amen, Frank.

FLATHATNEWS.COM

BEYOND THE ‘BURG



COURTESY PHOTO — WWW.WIKIPEDIA.ORG
Metcalf Hall at Brown University.

Brown recognizes slave trade ties

Commission recommends memorial and expanded studies

By AMEYA JAMMI
Flat Hat Insight Editor

Brown University announced plans Tuesday to recognize its connections to the slave trade in accordance to recommendations by the University Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice. Plans include the construction of a public memorial and the expansion of studies concerning slavery at both the university and Rhode Island public schools.

“The state and the city should view this project as a true partnership with Brown University, given the significant history of slavery in Rhode Island and America,” the commission said in its report.

Founding brothers John and Moses Brown financed Brown, as well as slave voyages. While Moses became a Quaker and an abolitionist later in life, John continued to defend the slave trade. Slaves built the university’s first building, University Hall, and slave dealers gave the university money, labor and materials.

Brown President Ruth Simmons, the first black president of an Ivy League school, appointed the Committee on Slavery and Justice to study the university’s ties to slavery and recommend how it should take responsibility.

The committee made six recommendations, including building a public memorial and funding for grants for research on slavery and the slave trade. Other recommendations included determining how the topic was taught at the university and in public schools and providing money for lectures and events tied to slavery. The university will expand or create a new academic center to study slavery and justice.

Brown plans to endow \$10 million for these initiatives. So far, \$1.5 million has been raised.

“We have begun a search ... to find a faculty leader who’s a world expert in the history of slavery,” Provost David Kertzer told the Brown Daily Herald, an independent newspaper at the university.

Kertzer said this faculty leader would deal with the history of slavery, its contemporary legacy and its ethical and social implications.

The Commission on Memorials, which has ten members with expertise on subjects including public art displays, local black experience and slavery’s history, looked at memorials such as the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Ala. and the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool, England. The Public Art Committee will plan the memorial, which may not be located on campus.

STREET BEAT

What was the craziest thing to happen over spring break?



“My fiance and four other guys backpacked for five days on a loop that included the three most scenic overlooks in Virginia.”

Alli Honenberger '09



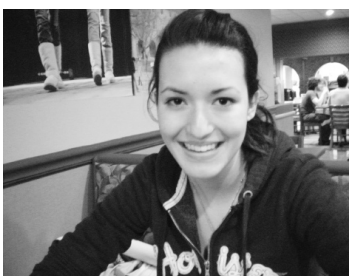
“I moshed in a show in Greenwich Village in New York City.”

Morrison Mast '12



“My friend had her hair gelled and face marked by little kids on a service trip to Wilmington, Del.”

Joy Russell '12



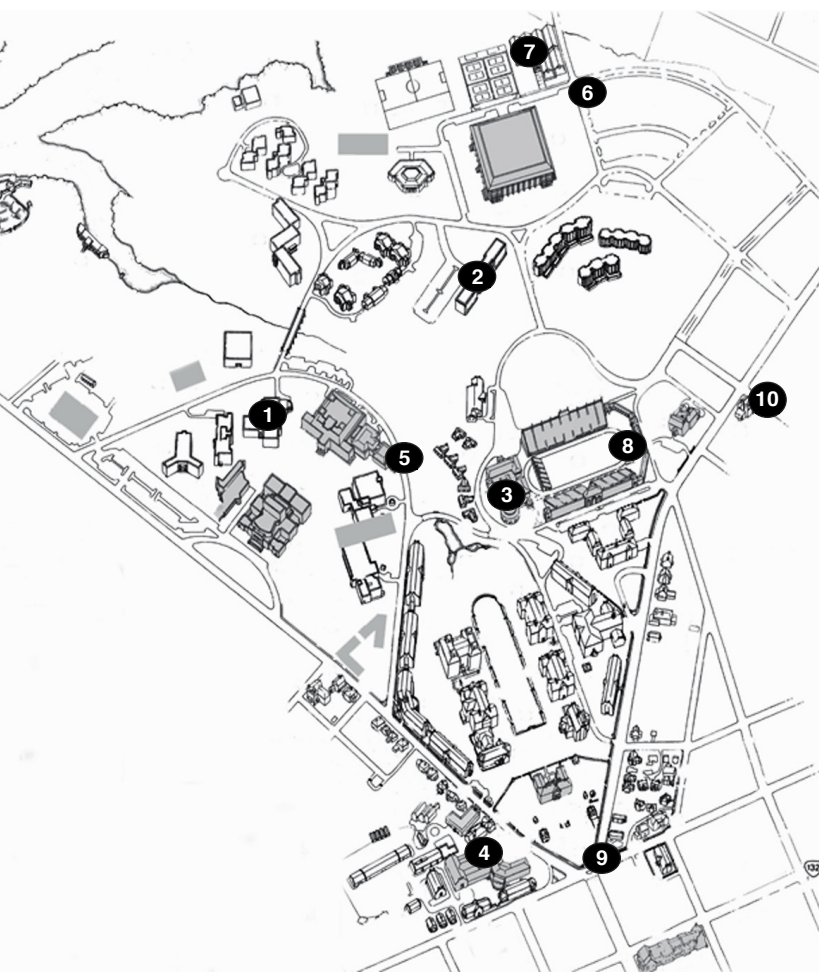
“I bailed out on skydiving because I decided I wanted to be alive to get my college degree.”

Amanda Gibson '12

— photos and interviews by Bertel King, Jr.

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

Feb. 27 to March 16



- 1 Friday, Feb. 27** — An individual reported stolen eye bolts from the Small Hall construction trailer. The estimated damage is \$250.
- 2** — Two students were summoned for possession of marijuana in Yates Hall.
- 3 Saturday, Feb. 28** — An individual reported vandalized lights in a Sadler Center bathroom. The estimated damage is \$25.
- 4 Monday, March 2** — An individual reported a stolen golf cart from the Campus Center. The estimated value is \$3,000.
- 5 Friday, March 6** — An individual reported a stolen laptop on the 500 block of Landrum Dr. The estimated value is \$4,000.
- 6 Saturday, March 7** — An individual reported a stolen cell phone on the 400 block of Brooks St. The estimated value is \$200.
- 7 Tuesday, March 10** — An individual reported a stolen iPhone at the Rec Center. The estimated value is \$200.
- 8 Saturday, March 14** — An individual reported a vandalized vehicle in the stadium lot. The estimated damage is \$1,000.
- 9 Monday, March 16** — Individuals reported vandalized houses and benches on the 100 block of Richmond Rd. The estimated damage is \$400.
- 10** — An individual reported a vandalized tailgate on Harrison Avenue. The estimated damage is \$40.

— compiled by Bertel King, Jr.

This Week in Flat Hat History

1914

The freshman class president Lysander Abelard French was seriously injured when the elevator in the geology building turned upside down. The building’s elevator attendant at the time, Booney Potlicker, was charged with criminal negligence.

1933

Noted German actor Max Montor performed for students and faculty in German and English at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. Montor’s program included different works by Shakespeare and various German writers. Montor spoke with members of the College’s drama club before the performance.

1947

Students were offered the opportunity to get chest X-rays as part of a nationwide movement to wipe out tuberculosis. The X-rays were offered for two days and all students were recommended to receive them. Over 100 X-rays were taken per hour.

1977

College president Thomas Graves proposed increasing the mandatory athletic fee by \$14 and the out-of-state tuition fee by \$200. This was the first increase in prices in three years. The Athletic Policy Committee expressed numerous concerns over the proposed budget.

—by Ameya Jammi

SA candidate replaces running mate for election

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat News Editor

The Student Assembly Elections Commission ruled early Thursday morning that SA presidential candidate Sarah Rojas '10 will be allowed to replace her former running mate, Austin Wiese '10, with Ryan Ruzic J.D. '11 for the March 26 election.

Wiese withdrew from the race for personal reasons.

"I think it is in my best interests to remove myself from the ticket," Wiese said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. "This has been a very personal decision for me. Sarah and I thank all those for their support."

Elections Commission Chairman

Matt Beato '09 said the commission analyzed pertinent bylaws and judicial precedents to determine if Rojas could remain on the ballot and if Ruzic could replace Wiese.

"The decision was made after an extensive review of all relevant Student Assembly regulations and precedents," Beato said in a press release. "The Elections Commission decided that a specific clause in the Constitution discussing switching SA Presidential tickets prevailed over a section of [the Election] Code which it appeared to conflict with or supplement."

The Election Commission's seven-page ruling on the situation outlines the rules and regulations dictating SA election law.

According to the document, Rojas filed the forms declaring Ruzic her new running mate at 11:52 p.m. Wednesday night, just eight minutes before the final deadline to change the election ballot. Ruzic filed his candidacy forms five minutes later.

The decision extensively summarizes the differences between the SA Constitution and the Election Code, as well as any judicial precedents.

The greatest controversy surrounding the decision was whether Rojas could alter her ticket at such a late date, and whether Ruzic was eligible to replace Wiese. Ruzic's eligibility was unclear because any replacement candidate would have had to attend one of the SA informational sessions which took

place before spring break.

Ruzic did attend an informational session while considering running for SA president. He withdrew before the candidate list was publicly released. The commission found that Ruzic's attendance at an informational session made him eligible to replace Wiese and that his prior withdrawal did not preclude him from becoming Rojas's running mate.

The commission ultimately ruled that Rojas could alter her ticket and that Ruzic is eligible to run.

"It is fair to say that this was not an easy, clear-cut decision. This is a decision with good arguments on both sides, and every commissioner understands that," the ruling concluded. "Any deci-

sion that is made will thus upset some individuals on campus; some because it is contrary to their view of the rules, and some because it is contrary to their policy preferences."

Ruzic served as student body president for two years during his undergraduate studies at the University of Illinois.

"Honestly, I think he is one of the most experienced people for this position," Rojas said Thursday. "There's so much to do to connect grad [students] and undergrads."

Ruzic did not return requests for comment.

Candidates in good standing can appeal the decision to the SA Review Board, the student government's judicial branch.

Ruzic submits impeachment bill

Senate hopes seat will remain vacant

PINSKER *from page 1*

"My resignation was planned weeks ago upon the diagnosis and is unrelated to the allegations. I recognize the timing is unfortunate; however, I am not letting outside interference influence my plans."

In his bill of impeachment, which according to senate rules is now void, Ruzic alleged that Pinsker used a device called a keylogger, which records what is typed on a keyboard and can therefore record e-mail passwords. Ruzic alleged Pinsker recorded an SA member's password and used it to obtain a copy of the candidate list.

In an interview with The Flat Hat, Pinsker declined to address the allegations directly. He acknowledged having keylogger software on his computer, which he uses to back up his work.

"I planned to resign upon diagnosis," Pinsker said. "When I first heard about the impeach-

ment charge, my first instinct was to stay and fight it. But I decided it wasn't worth it."

After obtaining the candidate list, Pinsker leaked it to The Flat Hat, resulting in an article listing the three named presidential candidates, as revealed by a source who wished to remain anonymous. The article was published online March 4.

Pinsker has since told SA members and Flat Hat reporters that he was the source.

In a press release, Ruzic stated that Pinsker's activities were revealed to him by a member of the Elections Commission.

"This behavior fails to live up to the standards of an elected representative of the students of this college," Ruzic said. "We as student senators have a responsibility to protect these elections."

Pinsker maintains that he acted in the student body's in-

terest.

"I do not take the blame, I take the credit for making election information publicly available," Pinsker said. "It is disgraceful that the SA is trying to conceal election information, and students deserve a fair and transparent governing body."

Senior Class President Kevin Dua '09 will be responsible for selecting someone to fill Pinsker's seat for the remainder of the year. McClean expressed some doubt that Dua would actually make the appointment, however, saying the body would be better off if the seat were left vacant.

Sen. Ben Brown '11 stated that all the bills sponsored solely by Pinsker, including several introduced in the previous meeting, were dead according to senate rules.

Flat Hat Staff Writer Mason Watson and Editor-in-Chief Austin Wright contributed reporting to this article.

List of Candidates for the March 26 Student Assembly Election		
President and Vice President Horacio Carreño and Michael Douglass Devin Sanchez Curry and David Loss Sarah Rojas and Ryan Ruzic		
Class of 2010 President Ryan Eickel Alyssa Wallace	Class of 2011 President Michael Tsidulko	Class of 2012 President Kobie Gordon Nicole Skarpness
Vice President for Advocacy Jessica Taubman	Vice President for Advocacy <i>No declared candidates</i>	Vice President for Advocacy Allie Baeuchler Steph Kumah
VP for Social Affairs Laura Nelson	VP for Social Affairs Wayne Pearson	VP for Social Affairs <i>No declared candidates</i>
Secretary <i>No declared candidates</i>	Secretary Sahra Roble	Secretary Kasi Hartman Stephanie McGuire
Treasurer Ray Ciabattoni	Treasurer Chrissy Scott	Treasurer KC Dang Xiaoyu Guo
Senator Jim Dunleavey Ross Gillingham Erik Houser Steven Nelson Eric Newman	Senator Ben Brown Brittany Fallon Juan Jorquera Imad Matini Ian Kirkpatrick Russ Taylor Kentaro Uzuki Mike Young	Senator Mateos Chekol Stef Felitto Tom Flaherty Betty Jeanne Manning Jill Olszewski Carlos Quintela Matt Schofield Stuart Shields
<small>Note: The three uncontested positions — Class of 2010 Secretary, Class of 2011 Vice President for Advocacy and Class of 2012 Vice President for Social Affairs — can be won by a write-in candidate, according to SA Elections Commission Chairman Matt Beato '09. If enough votes for "no candidate", called protest votes, are lodged, the position will go unfilled until a special election during the Sept. 24 freshman elections.</small>		



This year, Ernst & Young has 14 reasons to celebrate.

Thank you College of William and Mary.

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Professor explores effects of language discrimination

By JESSICA KAHLBERG
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Professor Anne Charity Hudley spoke to students about language discrimination Wednesday evening at a discussion sponsored Conversations on Reconciliation and Equality.

CORE consists of the Student Assembly, NAACP, Mosaic House and the Admissions Office's Multicultural Ambassador Council (MAC). The group has hosted a series of dinner discussions on diversity-related topics.

Language discrimination is one of the last widely acceptable forms of discrimination in the United States, Hudley said. Her presentation included hand-outs for students with four examples of language discrimination in the country. Students were split up into four groups to discuss each of these topics.

"Dividing students into groups encouraged them to actively think about issues of language and diversity," MAC President Irène Mathieu said. "CORE is supposed to be a discussion series, not a lecture series, so we try to stay away from having our guest speak-

ers talk the whole time. Having small group discussion was a great way to facilitate peer-led conversation."

Some discussion questions included: "What are the similarities and differences between 'English Only' and 'Whites Only?'" and "What accommodations should be made for speakers of non-standardized English and English as an additional language in the admissions process (and freshman writing seminars)?"

Mathieu said that part of CORE's mission is to bring to the floor topics that are not typically addressed.

"In a multicultural community such as the College of William and Mary, language frequently becomes connected to issues of socioeconomic, ethnic and other types of diversity," Mathieu said. "But it isn't frequently discussed. Linguistic discrimination or prejudices are quite commonplace, but not typically acknowledged."

Hudley said that her first exposure to language discrimination was in the public school system, when her brother was condemned for speaking "black."

"A teacher at the local, predominate-

ly white, public school tried to place my brother in slower reading classes due to language problems. It would be years before I realized that these language problems were tantamount to using features of African-American English in the wrong place coupled with the fact that my brother was what he was, an African-American boy," Hudley said. "My brother went on to graduate from Princeton and get an MBA from Stanford. I can't imagine what would have happened if his second grade teacher had her way."

Hudley said some of the most prevalent issues regarding language discrimination include a lack of access to educational and economic opportunities.

"Schools and employers are not permitted by law to discriminate based on gender, race or ethnicity but they often reject people based on their verbal ability," Hudly said. "As a society, we have to be more thorough on just what 'verbal ability' means."

She insists that education is an area where speech differences have harsher consequences for blacks than whites.

"Martin Luther King Junior Elemen-

tary School Children v. Ann Arbor School District Board determined the responsibility of teachers to accommodate the speech of African-Americans and other non-mainstream English-speaking children," Hudley said. "The children were disproportionately placed in special education classes and speech [and] language pathology services."

Hudley noted that, according to a recently released study, Spanish-speaking residents in Washington, D.C. often have trouble accessing Medicaid benefits even though they are eligible. The survey attributes language discrimination and a lack of resources for Spanish speakers as the source of their difficulties.

Hudley emphasized that many challenges in the assessment of black children are the result of linguistic and cultural ignorance.

"Conventional testing situations have been shown to cause African-American and other children to become hesitant and taciturn," Hudley said.

According to her, researchers should help teachers expose students to more

diverse images and knowledge in order to help them on standardized tests.

"Unfortunately, many of the images that appear on standardized assessments are not culturally relevant to particular student populations, but they are necessary for test success," she said.

Mathieu said linguistic discrimination and prevention of linguistic diversity is a day-to-day occurrence about which CORE seeks to inform students.

"Multiculturalism is about more than numbers or statistics; it's about actively promoting the embrace of others and silencing our preconceived notions as much as possible," she said. "Sometimes our most persistent judgments of others come from the way people express themselves linguistically. By addressing the issue of language and diversity, we are starting a conversation that will help us move to more open minds and more inclusive notions of diversity and multiculturalism."

Hudley said she will be holding an informational session for the proposed Community Studies minor on March 26 from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Tucker 208.

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Benson emerges in post, stands tall for College

BENSON *from page 10*

going to stay there for four years. And if it takes five, you're

CLASSIFIED

Have a luminaria decorated and displayed at Relay for Life in honor of a loved one who fought or lost their life to cancer. Suggested donation: \$3/luminaria. Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Send donation to CSU 1149. Include your name and the name of the honored person. Luminaria requests and donations will be accepted through April 1.

going to stay there for five.'

"She didn't call me for about a month, so one day I called her. I said, 'You all right?' and she said, 'Yeah, things have gotten a little bit better, but it's still hard.' I said, 'You can do it. If I did not think you could do it, I would not have sent you there.'"

Fortunately for the Tribe, Benson stayed. She earned CAA All-Rookie team honors as a freshman and set a school record for blocked shots with 67 in a season.

Benson made the CAA All-Defensive team in her sophomore season, recording 58 blocks and averaging 8.3 points per game.

This past season, Benson found herself back in a leader-

ship role, but on top of leading the defense, she was forced to head the Tribe's offense as well.

Thanks to assistant coach Meg Barber and countless hours in the gym, the girl who shot the ball in the other team's basket during her first middle school basketball practice led the Tribe with 12 points per game this season.

"All of the sudden, I'm a leader now. It's a big change for me," Benson said. "I can't even believe it, me being a leading scorer ... It's a shock to me because I'd never thought I'd even be in the position to have a basketball scholarship."

Benson recorded 11.5 rebounds per game this past sea-

son, tying her for seventh in the country.

She also averaged 2.7 blocks, earning her the CAA Defensive Player of the Year award — only the second Tribe player to win that honor (Kyle DeHaven did it in 2005).

And the coach? The one who discovered a player so raw, yet so talented, and helped mold her into a college basketball player?

"I'm just so proud of her. There isn't anyone in this world, other than my own kids, that I'm proud of even more," Dozier said. "If you were to come to me on the street and say, 'who's the kid you're most proud of that you ever coached?' It'd be Tiffany Benson."



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Photo exhibition features pictures of women ages 0 to 100

"I can't put into words what a wonderful person he was and what a great loss this is to our William and Mary soccer community," Albert said.

"Someone who's searching for something that's wrong with this exhibit will potentially find one," Cockerill said. "But that's not why people who are interested came out ... they are interested in the greater message of this exhibit, want to understand women, and want to understand

“[For women who have been through trauma] the act of being photographed nude has been a very important step ... in the process of their recovery,” Cordelle said. “It’s kind of a hoot for me to know that I’ve been able to be a part of that. There are a couple of cases where women have told me that I am the first man they undressed in front of since whatever happened to them happened.”

Over the following years, Cordelle has asked women with similar experiences how willing they are to reveal themselves

"I feel like it was a wonderful exhibit because it made me mull things over in my head," Cockerill said. "I think the point of the exhibit is to touch people. No one's story is going to be the same, but you gather information about these [women] through their stories. And these women and their stories affected me very deeply."

"The truth is, all those trite things one says about a loved one are true and must be said," Guevin wrote. "Our friend was the best. The person everyone could count on. Dedicated. Well-integrated. Smart. Caring. A fantastic hostess. 'Mamma bear.' Loving. Loved. A saint."

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College of William and Mary students participate in a mock honor council hearing for Ethics Week Wednesday night in Blair Hall. The event was under-attended.

“Our endowment and annual gifts total to about only 12 percent of our finances, whereas some private universities rely on almost 45 percent for endowment,” Jones said. “We’re feeling it more on state funding reduction because that money is disappearing. So we’re pinched in a different kind of way.”

Chair: Prof. George Greenia, Hispanic Studies
Amanda Scott. "With a Dance in Their Step and a Song on
Their Lips: Clerical Misbehavior in Navarre."
Kimberly Bassett. "Witnesses to Manipulation: Children in
Navarrese Witchcraft Trials"

STAFF EDITORIAL

Election code craves consistence

Had the Elections Commission ruled this Wednesday in keeping with the letter of both the Student Assembly’s Election Code and Constitution, it would have prevented Sara Rojas ’10 from taking a new running mate when Austin Wiese ’10 dropped from her ticket. But when faced with a situation in which the poorly constructed language of SA elections’ guiding documents is set in opposition with the best interest of the student body, we have no qualms with their technically imperfect but sane decision.

Be wary; SA bylaws this way come. In order to ensure the student body isn’t surprised by new names while voting, the SA code and constitution each place deadlines after which candidates may not make changes to their ticket. The problem: The Election Code sets that deadline 10 days before the election for “all candidates,” while the constitution says it should be “not less than 7 days” for the presidential and vice-presidential ticket. Wiese withdrew eight days before the election. Should Rojas be able to take on a new running mate?

The Elections Commission says yes, and they make some very convincing arguments — so convincing, in fact, that we wholly believe they erred in earnest. Inverting standard practice, the SA’s Election Code predates its constitution. As a result, there is a very good chance that the constitutional drafters wrote in the seven-day clause with the intention of supplementing the 10-day deadline already present in the code to create a special withdrawal deadline for the presidential tickets. This reading is consistent with the SA’s preference, based on precedence, for specific clauses over general ones when there is a conflict.

However, there is no need to read into language a conflict that the language itself doesn’t offer. 10 days is simply not less than seven days. Should we disregard the language of a relevant clause when there is a reading available that does not require us to do so? By analogy, if the U.S. Constitution said that a federal magistrate may serve for “not more than four years,” would it be unconstitutional for Congress to pass a three-year term limit for that official? We think not, and regardless of history or context, the wording here simply is what it is. But the real question is: Does any of this matter?

The SA must take this opportunity to rework the way it runs its elections. The rules need to be refined and clarified. There must be a mechanism to allow students to withdraw from the race, rather than making them change the office they seek to “no office,” as is currently done. And — dare we? — it might also be time to take steps to put to rest the secrecy and litigiousness that have plagued this system for years. Call us dreamers.

The staff editorial represents the opinion of The Flat Hat. The editorial board, which is elected by The Flat Hat’s section editors and executive staff, consists of Austin Wright, Jeff Dooley, Alice Hahn, Ashley Morgan, Andy Peters and Andy Henderson. The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Limit letters to 250 words and columns to 700 words. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only. E-mail submissions to fhopinions@gmail.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kaine should reject SB187
To the Editor:
Gov. Timothy H. Kaine must take action immediately to protect women’s health in the state of Virginia. Senate Bill 801, which would bring “Choose Life” license plates to Virginia, originally was defeated in committee in the General Assembly, later passed through the Senate as an amendment to SB817, and finally made it through the House, where it now waits for Kaine’s signature. The sale of these plates would fund crisis pregnancy centers and their deceptive practices.

Often supported by religious organizations, crisis pregnancy centers present themselves as legitimate health care providers. Their names deceive women into thinking they provide a wide range of services that include family planning and abortion, but when patients call, staff members are evasive and often request that the patient personally meet with a counselor. Inside, the centers often appear to be normal clinics with waiting rooms and ultrasound machines.

Worse, these centers tell women medically inaccurate information to try

to scare them away from abortions. They tell women that abortions will cause breast cancer, sterility or psychological damage. Some center representatives have also been documented telling women that many forms of birth control, especially emergency contraception, induce an abortion. They also claim that condoms are not effective at preventing both pregnancy and the transmission of HIV.

Crisis pregnancy centers are not good for women, and Virginia should not allow the sale of state license plates to fund these establishments. In Florida, the sale of these plates generates approximately \$65,000 a month; imagine what a legitimate health care center could do with that kind of money.

Women have the right to access medical care that is both complete and unbiased so they can make the choices that are best suited for them and their families. Tell Kaine to support legitimate, comprehensive reproductive health clinics, rather than those that aim to prevent women from exercising their constitutional right to choose.

— Brittany Montalvo ’09



By OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

Like phoenix, College must rise to occasion

Bertel King, Jr.
FLAT HAT INSIGHT EDITOR



College of William and Mary President Taylor Reveley recently e-mailed students, inviting us to join in the search for a school mascot. While I appreciate that this process is democratic and open, I don’t see the need for such a search. A mascot already resides in the heart of our campus, and it has been around for hundreds of years.

The phoenix is at the heart of the College — where old campus meets new campus. This is very appropriate for a college at which the old is juxtaposed with the new, at which students can watch YouTube wirelessly from the courtyard of the oldest actively used academic building in America. But the phoenix symbolizes more than just the place where new and old meet — it embodies both the past and the present.

The phoenix has been with the College since its earliest days. When the Wren Building burned down in 1705, James Blair promised that the College would rise like a phoenix from the charred shell of the old Wren Building. His portrait is displayed on the first floor of James Blair Hall with a phoenix rising from the base of Wren in the background. Three centuries have passed since Blair made the bold claim, and we have proven him right. The College rose like a phoenix to become more than it ever was. It is now one of the top

universities in America, and its size has increased over 1,000 percent since Blair founded the College.

When the College was founded, it received a coat of arms from the College in Arms in England. The College prides itself on being the only university in America to have been granted a coat of arms. However, from 1783 to 1929 — nearly half of the College’s existence — the seal preferred by the College was one designed by George Wythe. This seal bore a phoenix, and represented both a break from England and a commitment to freedom and the liberal ideals upon which this country was founded.

Now, as the College faces new and persisting challenges — a shrinking budget from the state government, a difficult economy, a new president and, yes, the lack of a mascot — what better model is there for us to follow than that of the phoenix?

Some students are still bitter about the loss of the feathers from the school logo. While this is understandable, the feathers do not characterize the College in the same manner that the phoenix does. The College may have begun with the intent to educate the American Indians living around it, but that has not been the College’s legacy.

Clinging to the feathers and tribe moniker seems out of character at a school that otherwise plays down its previous interaction with American Indians. The phoenix captures the timelessness of this institution and its character, which has kept the College thriving for centuries.

Bertel King, Jr. is a freshman at the College.

As the College faces new and persisting challenges what better model is there for us to follow than that of the phoenix?

Catherine Puzey’s death is a testament to sacrifice of Peace Corps

Ed Innace
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



As you may have already read, Catherine Puzey ’06 was recently killed while serving in the Peace Corps in the west African nation of Benin. It is a sad fact that this sort of tragedy is not uncommon. Since the inception of the Peace Corps in 1961, many volunteers have lost their lives, and hundreds each year are assaulted, raped or robbed.

This has caused the institution to be criticized for the lack of protection it affords to its volunteers. Another criticism levied at the Peace Corps is that it does not truly help the countries in which it operates

because its workers are largely young and inexperienced. If both of these accusations are true, is the program worth continuing? I believe it is — the true strength of the Peace Corps lies in the vulnerability and fallibility of its volunteers.

The true benefit of the Corps, to the United States and other nations, cannot be accurately measured by the net economic and developmental effects volunteers have on their host communities. This is not the goal of the institution, though it can be an important side benefit.

Rather, the true power of the Corps lies in the human interaction between common people. The understanding that develops will hopefully change many misconceptions held by both groups and, from the ground up, create better relations between the

United States and other nations for the benefit of all.

Many nations view the United States as either using its power solely for its own gain and protection or as attempting to impose its ways on the rest of the world. This, understandably, can lead

Volunteers don’t have all the answers, nor do they pretend to. They offer what they can to help, not to impose American ideals.

to conflict that is detrimental to all sides. Positive interaction between the people of such nations and Peace Corps volunteers can, perhaps, counteract this view. This process is augmented by the character of the volunteers.

will surely notice.

These characteristics reveal a much more sympathetic picture of Americans to those whose only idea of what Americans are like comes from their media and government. Inexperienced 20-somethings do a lot more to create general goodwill between our nation and others than if we only sent experienced professionals, each with a personal detachment of Marines, to help out abroad.

It is a great thing that so many of our fellow College of William and Mary students, like Puzey, chose to enter the Peace Corps. It is an important calling with many dangers. It is a special type of person who can take the risks inherent in this calling, making it especially tragic when such a person is lost.

Ed Innace is a sophomore at the College.

Transferring into the Tribe

By BECKY KOENIG
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Students at the College of William and Mary arrive right out of high school and have the comfort of knowing that their fellow classmates are equally clueless.

Transfer students, however, have no such assurances.

“Coming from community colleges, we have kind of a Napoleonic complex where we have to prove ourselves,” Irene Foley ’10 said.

Foley is a New Jersey native, and after spending one year at Boston University, she took classes at Northern Virginia Community College before coming to the College.

Next to Foley on the Sadler Center terrace sat Kelly Tsipsis ’10, her hallmate, fellow transfer student and friend since orientation. Tsipsis, who earned four semesters’ worth of credits in one year at Richard Bland Community College and John Tyler Community College, agreed with Foley’s analysis.

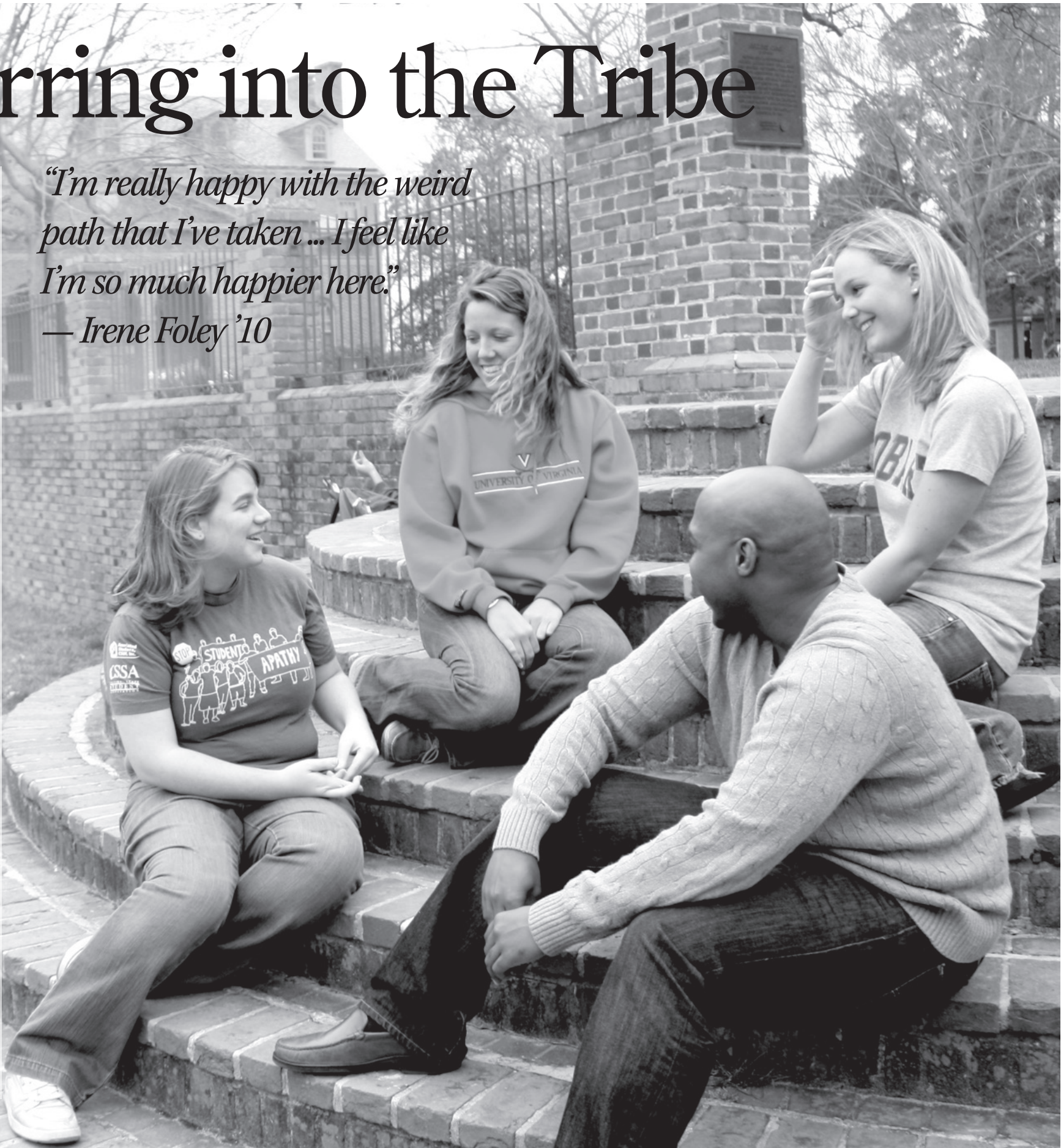
“Especially to the people at home who saw me as the girl out of high school who went to community college. Now I’m actually taking a real step [forward].”

Whether coming from a different four-year institution or a community college, transfer students resolve the question of where to relocate in unexpected ways. Foley found her answer reflected in the College’s swimming pool.

“Legitimately, every single school that we visited, we went and saw the swimming pool,” Foley said. “I don’t know why, it’s weird. I walked in, and the [College] lifeguard was so friendly.”

That chlorine-scented conversation sold her on the College, though before she visited she was leaning toward the University of Virginia. Tsipsis was also

“I’m really happy with the weird path that I’ve taken ... I feel like I’m so much happier here.”
— Irene Foley ’10



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT
Transfer students [CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT] Kelly Harmon ’11, Sarah Ridgway ’10, Paige Journey ’09 and Byron Morgan ’10 discuss issues facing students who switch schools midway through their college careers.

THAT GUY

Kevin Dua crushes on Kelly Clarkson, Michael Jackson

By LAUREN BILLINGSLEY
Flat Hat That Guy Columnist

As I walk into Lodge 1, a jiving Kevin Dua ’09 informs me that I’m breaking up his spontaneous dance party by the stage. It’s 4 p.m. on a Thursday, but as long as there are dance beats, Kevin Dua’s grooving. well-known on campus, he calls himself and his principle campus involvement as Senior Class President “one-dimensional.” However, with his love of history, a diploma from a celebrity high school and plans to break a Guinness World Record next month, makes him pretty multidimensional. A dedicated worker, this history major even stayed here over spring break to work at the ID Office and labor over organizing the Senior Class gift.

Tell me a little about where you are from.

I’m from Alexandria, and I love

to brag about it because I went to T.C. Williams High School from “Remember the Titans.” It was always a great icebreaker freshman year. **Was a there a feeling of celebrity going to T.C. Williams?**

It wasn’t a big deal for us. I played one year on the football team, and we actually had to watch the movie pretty much every time before a game. We met Coach Boone, who gave us an inspirational speech. If you’ve ever seen the movie, you know the big hype and dancing they do before the games. I led that. We actually brought that back for that one year, which was very interesting. I like to describe T.C. as a mini-Model United Nations. There were like eighty different cultures represented in that school. I kind of miss it sometimes. It was a combination of “the Hills,” “Dawson’s Creek,” a little “O.C.” and “Real

World” all mixed together.

You’re a history major here at the College of William and Mary. What history interests you most?

I’m kind of a war buff. I love the Civil War, World War II and also the Civil Rights Movement.

Do you have an idea of what you’re doing next year?

I had an interview with the School of Education here at William and Mary today, which I’ll find out about in a few weeks. My interests have switched from law school to teaching over the past few years. I’m looking at higher education: high school AP American history.

Clearly you have mad dance skills. Tell me about them.

So I like to dance. I was a horrible dancer from elementary school through high school. I looked like Steve Urkel and was the most awkward kid in the world. I had a retainer and glasses, and I couldn’t go to dances. I’ve always liked Michael Jackson, though, and it was always fun to watch him with my family in the living room. Whenever he put out a music video it was always breaking news on NBC and ABC, so I’ve always followed his music since I was five. Following someone like that, you know, you’ve got to stand up sometimes and have fun with the rug and look at yourself in the mirror and try a little spin or kick or a little moonwalk. When I came to college it was common that people just danced so I would dance to Michael Jackson to “Thriller” when it came on. So I guess I gained this dancing reputation.

What’s your favorite song to dance to?

It would have to be a tie between “Billy Jean” and “Thriller.” **How did you spend your first ever college snow day earlier this month?**

I had a midterm that day at 1 p.m. My morning started at 6:30 a.m. with the text message saying classes were cancelled until 12. We got an e-mail from our professor saying the midterm was still on, which I was going to fail. When I found out all classes were canceled I started screaming — the whole place was screaming like it was New Years. I ran home and got into two snowball fights with my roommates, slept for a few hours, ate some Chinese food and watched “House.” I felt like I was five years old. I took the exam Wednesday and did well on it. The snow saved my life.

When you were a kid, how did you usually spend snow days?

I would be doing one of three things: eating Fruity Pebbles, since I’m obsessed with them, watching Power Rangers, which I was obsessed with, or dancing to Michael Jackson, who I’m still obsessed with.

What’s your favorite news source?

Tie between CNN and TMZ. TMZ is a celeb gossip site.

If I turned on your iPod right now, what would I be listening to?

Let’s see. [Pulls out iPod.] I can’t see my screen anymore because it’s broken, so there are two songs that are going back and forth — that’s how ghetto it is. But one is Jay-Z’s “Encore,” and, I kid you not, the other one is “Thriller.”

What’s been your best job?

The William and Mary ID Office. It’s very relaxed, and you get a chance to interact with nearly every student and you get to hear the most outrageous stories of how people lose their IDs and stuff.

What’s a ridiculous story from the ID office?

I know someone who has lost their ID 12 times.

Do you have any nicknames?

Apparently I don’t have a first name anymore because my friends just call

me Dua. Michael Jackson is one, too. Marshmallow is another because my friend convinced me to play Chubby Bunny once on the Terrace, and I had like nine in my mouth.

Grind or Starbucks?

Neither. I don’t like hot liquids. I like either orange soda or orange Gatorade. Did you ever watch “Kenan and Kel?” That’s why I like orange soda. Kel is obsessed with orange soda; that was a theme in the show. [Begins singing] “Who likes orange soda? Is it true? Mhmmm. I dooo I dooo I dooo.” I’m eight, nine years old watching this show, and I don’t know why this kid likes orange soda, but I’m going to drink it.

Any equally funny relationships with food or things you particularly like?

I die and go to heaven when I eat either Chinese food or Fruity Pebbles. Every week when we get groceries I get a box and ten minutes after, that box is finished.

If you could meet a celebrity, who would you meet?

Kelly Clarkson. She’s been my celeb crush since “American Idol” [season] one.

What talent do you wish you had?

I wish I could ride a bike. I know it’s not a talent, but I wish I could ride a bike. I can’t ride to save my life.

If you were to die and come back as a person or thing, what would it be?

I would come back as a professional wrestler. As Hulk Hogan. I am a closet professional wrestling fan, and I’ve watched since I was five.

The plug worked for me; I have the “Thriller” dance pulled up on YouTube in preparation for the hopefully record-breaking event next month. In the wise words of Kevin Dua, you all have no excuse. It’s time for students across campus to “stand up and have fun with the rug.” Hit it, Michael Jackson.



MARAL NOORI-MOGHADDAM — THE FLAT HAT

CAPSULE REVIEWS

THE DECEMBERISTS THE HAZARDS OF LOVE

The Decemberists updated their unique style with an infusion of rock influence in “The Hazards of Love.” Since 2000, the Decemberists have filled a very specific niche in the indie-pop genre by cranking out album after album of their own distinct blends of traditional folk music with a modern edge.

Their penchant for melodrama is fully realized in this folk-rock opera. Trading in the synthesizer solos of 2006’s “The Crane Wife” in favor of a more cohesive sound, the Decemberists have crafted a record of panoramic elegance. The

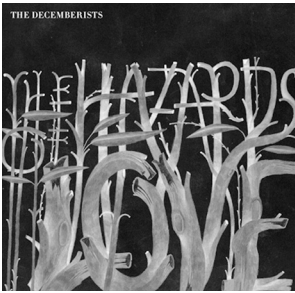
flawless transitions between songs coupled with the instrumental interludes add to this sense of the operatic. This is not an album to listen to on shuffle — to do so would cheapen the sweeping extravagance. While

“The Crane Wife” represented the conception of the Decemberists’ theatricality, “The Hazards of Love” stands as a proud maturation of the concept.

With this latest release, it feels like the Decemberists have at last learned to chart their own offbeat course through the murky waters of major labels. Where “The Crane Wife,” which was the band’s first record with Capital Records after leaving indie label Kill Rock Stars, felt jumbled and mismatched, ‘Hazards’ shimmers in its artful simplicity. Though they consciously sacrifice their signature grand vocabulary in favor of a stronger sound, this decision strengthens the album as a whole. While lyrics like “the prettiest whistles won’t wrestle the thistles undone” are still a credit to frontman Colin Meloy’s skill as a wordsmith, these moments are fewer and farther between than what was showcased on albums like “Picaresque” or even “Castaways and Cutouts.”

Though meant to be experienced in its entirety, the album still boasts some stunning stand-alone tracks. The Decemberists take a chance with some of the songs by introducing new guest female vocalists. Shara Worden (“My Brightest Diamond”) lends her robust vocals to “The Wanting Comes in Waves,” an epic six and a half minutes of desire and heartache. While past back-up vocalist Jenny Conlee was marked by her fragile timidity, Worden’s pugnacity earns her a song of her own, “The Queen’s Rebuke” — an honor never bestowed upon Conlee. Rebecca Gates from The Spinanes also makes an appearance in “Isn’t it a Lovely Night.” Her quaking sincerity makes this track one to remember. Nevertheless, when it comes to “The Hazards of Love,” the whole is undoubtedly greater than the sum of its parts.

— By Virginia Butler ★★☆☆☆



MOVIE REVIEW

‘Watchmen’ unites old and new audiences

By MATTHEW FALWELL
The Flat Hat

Two weeks ago, Zack Snyder’s “Watchmen” hit theaters with a classic comic-book bang. The story, extraordinarily faithful to the original graphic novel, centers around a group of deeply-flawed former superheroes. Their lives collide once more after the murder of one of their own. This all is set in a twisted version of 1985 in which history has been influenced by the superheroes and President Richard Nixon has been re-elected for a third time after winning the Vietnam War. Meanwhile, the Cold War rages on and the United States is creeping ever-closer to war with the Soviet Union. As the clock ticks closer to doomsday, the protagonists are thrust back into their roles as superheroes.

If I can say one thing for “Watchmen,” it’s not conventional. No matter what your exposure is to superhero films — or even movies in general — you’re not going to predict “watchmen’s” twists. In fact, the narrative is incredibly complex. The story shifts perspectives and

focuses, going from the present to flashbacks over 30 years in the past. One character’s flashback shows his entire life as happening at the same time. Several of the main scenes of the movie aren’t explained until the very end of the film. It isn’t cluttered like “Matrix Reloaded’s” ending, but it’s a far cry from the “Fantastic Four.” If you’re going for a pure popcorn flick, you’ll want to pass on this one. I’m a huge lover of the comic, so I went into the theater with certain expectations in mind. I wasn’t disappointed, either. While “Watchmen” isn’t going to win any Oscars, it’s definitely one of the better comic-book films. Like most adaptations, “Watchmen” tries to convey a lengthy story, but it does so better than most. Its source material weighs in at a dense 340 pages, a problem in the world of movies where a feature rarely goes beyond the two-hour mark. “Watchmen’s” answer to this problem is to cut a big chunk of the book’s plot while retaining the core. But even after the gratuitous exorcism, it still hovers dangerously close to the dreaded three hour mark.

They really could have cut

some things out of the movie and streamlined it, or even, shocking as this is, added more explanation to the central plot. If you’ve read the comic, nothing’s going to confuse you, but most people going to see the film are experiencing the story for the first time and are likely to be a little perplexed by the film’s closing. There are a few pointless action scenes, a few very lengthy sex scenes that are in poor taste to say the least and some overly long scenes that are stretched out for artistic effect.

The movie’s soundtrack is interesting. For the most part it’s a wonderful dash of ’80’s loving, but some of the songs just don’t blend well. Simon and Garfunkel stick out uncomfortably during an early montage. Later on, in what could have been a powerful emotional moment, Leonard Cohen’s “Hallelujah” turns the scene into something from the crudest of comedies. The film’s score is entirely eclipsed by this who’s who of the ’80’s music scene.

Though more than a little scatterbrained, the movie does step over the line from movie to film.

Symbolism is abundant, from the first shot to the last. Despite the fantasy-element of the superhero film, it remains very grounded with both subtle and overt political overtones.

From a character development standpoint, “Watchmen” is a gold mine. The main characters range from far-left pacifist and vegetarians to borderline fascist neo-cons. What is truly intriguing about this is that the film passes judgment on none of these characters and does something that most stories don’t dare to accomplish: It sympathizes with both sides, showing how everyone developed their individual personas.

If this at all sounds interesting to you, then you should check it out. If you prefer your superhero stories to leave the realm of moral relativism untouched, then you might want to sit this one out. “Watchmen” definitely isn’t for everyone, with its vicious gore, ubiquitous profanity and batch of heroes that you’ll find uncomfortably un-heroic. But those who see it will certainly get their money’s worth in this lengthy epic that is a far cry from the Sunday funnies.



COURTESY PHOTO — GEEKANDNERDBOG.COM

Dr. Manhattan [ABOVE] intervenes in Vietnam, turning the outcome of the war. The movie, “Watchmen” [RIGHT], closely mimics the original graphic novel [LEFT].



Tribe additions discuss adapting to changes in scenery, community

TRANSFER from page 8

convinced to transfer after visiting campus. Though she was leaning towards University of Mary Washington, “within the first two minutes [at the college], I changed my mind completely,” she said. “Also, there is a Greek system, which I’m very involved in, and that was something I knew I wanted to do.”

The Greek system at the College also appealed to Sarah Ridgway ’10, a transfer student from U.Va.. Ridgway had a difficult time deciding between U.Va. and the College during her senior year in high school, she waited until the deposit deadline day to decide on U.Va.. After her decision she realized that she was not satisfied after her first semester.

“When I heard about my friends going out and meeting new people, I thought, ‘I don’t really think I’m having the same experience as these people,’” she said. “I was hanging out with all the

same people I had before [college].”

She ultimately chose the College over their alma mater, James Madison University, because she wanted to maintain the same level of academic rigor and branch out from her family’s experiences. When she arrived in Williamsburg during the fall semester of her sophomore year, she participated in sorority rush week and ended up pledging.

“I didn’t rush [at U.Va.]; it was too intense,” Ridgway said. In contrast, she said the College offered a greater sense of Greek community.

Because they are eager to meet other students, most transfers get involved right away with several extracurricular activities on campus. Tsipsis raved about the College Republicans and the Outdoors Club, while it took some prompting Foley described her participation in the Swing Dance Club and the Massage Club.

“With everything I do, everyone is so

accepting. They need more people, and they want you to come. I feel like I’ve gotten a little more socially attuned.”

Arriving on campus as a transfer student is often the culmination of years of frustration and hard work, and many transfers seemed hesitant to voice their disappointments. With a little prodding, however, their gleaming Tribe Pride wore away to reveal more honest opinions. Tsipsis broached the subject first.

“Tell the truth,” she said to Tsipsis. “You get bored here.”

“I’m not really always comparing everything to BU,” Foley said, “but now that we’re talking about it ... I do miss being able to go to the science or art museum or walk on the Charles [River], but unless someone’s visiting me and I want to show them around, I don’t really notice.”

The evening social scene at the College also received mediocre reviews. There are enough parties to fill their weekends, Tsipsis and Foley agreed, but they decided that they are nothing to brag about. Tsipsis attributed the casual social atmosphere to the fact that fewer people drink at the College than she expected.

The conversation then turned to the subject of campus food. Foley reminisced about the broad array of off-campus dining options in Boston, and lamented that she hasn’t found the same range of choices in Williamsburg.

“Where do we eat?” she said. “Unless I want to go to someplace where they dress up in caps and gowns, where do I go?”

Tsipsis agreed. “The food the first month was fine, and it’s slowly losing its appeal,” he said. “My biggest deal is that I can’t get a hot meal. Everything I eat is cold, because you have to stand in line, which is annoying to me.”

A common theme among transfer students is dissatisfaction with the school spirit of the College’s student

body with respect to athletics. Ridgway said that she misses the fervor that sporting events created at U.Va.

“It’s very exciting there,” she said. “They stay the entire game whether they’re winning or losing; it’s on a bigger scale. I think school spirit could be improved here.”

Tsipsis had a similar outlook.

“I have an ungodly amount of school spirit,” she said. “And I was really upset that not a lot of people take the football games seriously.”

For these transfers, the religious and cultural diversity of the College’s student population was also the subject to debate. To Foley, the students here were more homogeneous than she expected.

“It was kind of a shock to me coming from Boston University,” she said, “where they draw a huge, huge population of different people. I love the people here, but they’re definitely not as diverse as what I found in the city.”

She was also surprised by what she saw as a high level of religious practice at the College.

“I’ve always lived in a non-religious community and so many of my friends come from that kind of background,” she said. “I wouldn’t change it, but I would add more religions besides Christianity; I would love to see Buddhism, and I’ve [only] met one Jewish person here. I do like that people have faith. It’s interesting. It adds more variety.”

Tsipsis was more content with the makeup of the student body, and has found that she shares many qualities with people she has met at the College.

“I feel very comfortable,” she said. “I love being around people like me.”

In Ridgway’s experience, U.Va. and the College are equally diverse. She weighed in on the ever-popular discussion of what it means to be a so-called typical William and Mary person and concluded that no set of defining characteristics exists.

“I know a wide range of people who are very different, and I would say

they’re all typical William and Mary students,” she said. “Based on my experiences, there could be a typical William and Mary student walking around at U.Va., and there could be a typical U.Va. student walking around at William and Mary.”

Though they didn’t agree on the specifics, all three transfer students agreed that they enjoy being part of the College, especially since it is relatively small compared to other universities.

“Everyone here just seems so much friendlier,” Ridgway said. “People aren’t so quick to judge you here. At U.Va., you could walk around all day and never see a single person that you knew, which is kind of depressing. I feel like I know lots of people here.” All three students praised the classroom intimacy created by small class sizes and the opportunity to build relationships with their professors.

Despite their differences in opinion and background, these transfer students that they were proud to be at the College and grateful for the opportunities they found here. Having been less than satisfied by their first college experiences, their appreciation of the College seemed to be magnified beyond what most non-transfer students express.

“I never thought I was good enough to get into William and Mary; when I was accepted, I was blown away, shocked and honored,” Tsipsis said.

Transfer students didn’t take the most direct route to Williamsburg, but many are thankful for their circuitous course just the same. They said leaving their initial colleges was risky, but they’ve found the experience rewarding beyond what they had predicted.

“I’m really happy with the weird path that I’ve taken,” Foley said, “[from] Boston University, [to] community college, [to] here. I feel like I’m so much happier here than I was at BU.

Ridgway agreed. “I would say it’s a change that I needed, and a great one.”



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASEBALL

Tribe drops both games of mid-week doubleheader

Due to rain, the College of William and Mary (5-11) squared off in a doubleheader against the University of Rhode Island (10-5) Wednesday, with the Tribe dropping both games. In the night cap, the Tribe fell 3-0 and got out-hit 6-4. URI designated hitter Dan Rhault collected an RBI on a two-run single in the third inning. In the first game, the Tribe lost 11-9 despite senior second baseman James Williamson's 4 RBIs which included a two-run home run to left field.

MEN'S TENNIS

College falls 4-1 in opening round of Blue-Gray Classic

College of William and Mary junior Keziel Juneau's upset victory over no. 44 Alexey Tsyrenov was the only win of the day for the 61st ranked Tribe (13-10). The College fell 4-1 to no. 30 Auburn University (8-4) in the Blue-Gray National Tennis Classic yesterday. Tsyrenov was the highest ranked opponent Juneau has defeated in his career, wining 6-1, 6-4. Juneau improved his season singles record to 20-10. In doubles, Juneau and sophomore Sebastien Vidal lost 8-4 to 10th-ranked Tsyrenov and Puetz.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Radloff places 41st in NCAA preliminaries

College of William and Mary junior Katie Radloff finished 41st at the NCAA Championship preliminaries in the 50-meter freestyle with a time of 22.63 seconds Thursday morning. Radloff plans on swimming in the 200-m freestyle today and the 100-m freestyle tomorrow. In her first two seasons at the College, Radloff competed in the 50-m, 100-m and 200-m events at the NCAA Championships. Her highest finish occured last season when she acheived 20th place in the 100-m free.

— By Chris Weidman

SCHEDULE

Fri., March 20

SWIMMING AND DIVING

NCAA Championships — College Station, Texas

WOMEN'S TENNIS

@ Marshall — Huntington, W. Va. — 3 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

vs. Fresno State — Montgomery, Ala. — 5 p.m.

BASEBALL

GEORGIA STATE — 7 p.m.

Sat., March 21

WOMEN'S GOLF

FIRST MARKET BANK INTERCOLLEGIATE

MEN'S TENNIS

Blue-Gray Classic (TBA) — Montgomery, Ala.

TRACK AND FIELD

TRIBE OPEN — 10 a.m.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS — College Station, Texas

WOMEN'S TENNIS

vs. Auburn — Huntington, W. Va.

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

ECAC Championship — New Haven, Conn. — 1 p.m.

BASEBALL

GEORGIA STATE — 2 p.m.

Sun., March 22

WOMEN'S GOLF

FIRST MARKET BANK INTERCOLLEGIATE

BASEBALL

GEORGIA STATE — 1 p.m.

MEN'S GYMNASTICS

JAMES MADISON — 3 p.m.

Mon., March 23

MEN'S GOLF

FIRST MARKET BANK INTERCOLLEGIATE

LACROSSE

RICHMOND — 7 p.m.

SPORTS FEATURE

From raw to real deal

The transformation of Tiffany Benson from cheerleader to post menace

By JACK LAMBERT

Flat Hat Staff Writer

Stories like this usually begin with, once upon a time.

Once upon a time a coach stumbles on a talent so unrefined he can't even believe he wants her on his team. The girl he discovers is athletic — she ran track in middle school — but she is so unschooled in the game of basketball it would seem easier to teach Verne Troyer how to dunk than to make her into a basketball player.

"I mean, there was raw talent there," said Darnell Dozier, varsity head coach at Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach. "She could just jump out the gym and block shots with ease. But she couldn't dribble, and she couldn't shoot. I thought, 'My God. My grandmother

could play better.'"

College of William and Mary junior forward Tiffany Benson got her start on the court from the other side of the bench.

"I started off as a cheerleader," Benson said. "Some of my teammates know. I really don't talk about it. I just mention it under my breath like, 'Yeah I was a cheerleader.'"

Dozier's son saw Benson play in a pickup game, and his scouting report led Dozier to watch one of Benson's middle school games. The coach was intrigued and paid Benson, who had only started playing basketball in the seventh grade, a home visit.

"The next day he comes to my house, comes to my mom and was like, 'I can get your daughter in the newspaper,'" Benson said.

Dozier's flattery did not leave Benson's living room.

"The first day of practice for high school basketball, he said, 'If you think about shooting that ball, I will put

your butt right there on that bench,'" Benson said.

The coach had his reasons.

"I said, the only thing I need you to do is block shots," Dozier said. "Well when you go after a kid and have them block shots for a while, they ask the question, 'Why can't I shoot?' I said, 'Don't you ever shoot.'"

"I remember one night she just threw it over the backboard and I was like, 'Hey, come on. That's a little embarrassing for me.'"

Dozier was as patient as Benson was raw, and soon they formed a relationship that was less coach-player and more father-daughter.

"Her mom worked all the time, so she never

had a chance to go a lot of places," Dozier said. "So when I'd go to the games to scout other teams, I'd always take Tiffany."

Benson's work ethic and capacity for learning soon made her one of the premier talents in the Virginia Beach area. She was twice named Beach District Defensive Player of the Year and was honored as a first-team All-Tidewater selection as a senior, averaging 8.9 points, 9.3 rebounds and 3.4 blocks per game.

Benson also led Princess Anne to a state title in 2005, prompting Dozier to call her "the best leader I had in fifteen years."

"She was just a pure leader. She'd say, 'I can't score. But you girls can score — and you best score. I can play defense and get rebounds, but you all need to score.'"

The close relationship between the coach and his now premier player continued after the end of basketball season. Dozier helped Benson choose a school, telling her that if she wanted a strong foundation for a career outside from basketball she should strongly consider the College.

Benson wasn't sold at first as she also considered attending Virginia Commonwealth University and Campbell University.

"I wanted to get out, to get away from Virginia Beach because I've been here all my life... so this was the last place I wanted to go until I came here on my recruiting visit."

Benson meshed well with girls on the basketball team and fell in love with the staff that had been recruiting her since they first saw her on the AAU circuit.

"We watched a lot of her games," Tribe Head Coach Debbie Taylor said. "We really liked her. We went to almost every game she played that summer, and then we started going to her high school games."

Benson enrolled at the College in the fall of 2006, but the separation from her family [as it does for many freshmen] took its toll.

"She called me, saying, 'I'm coming home, come and get me,'" Dozier said. "Here's what I said, and I quote: 'I'm not coming to get you. Don't call me until you're ready to stay there, and I will not come and get you because you're

See BENSON page 4



JOHN QUINN — THE FLAT HAT

Junior forward Tiffany Benson led the Tribe in points (12) and rebounds (11.5) per game.

Men's Basketball: Tribe 48, JMU 70

JMU's 17-2 second-half run overwhelmed the Tribe, ending the College's season in the first round. The Tribe hung around for the opening 20 minutes, but a 1 of 18 showing from three-point range slowed its offense to a halt. Junior forward Danny Sumner scored 19 points on 7 of 15 shooting. He was the only Tribe player to reach double figures as junior guard David Schneider shot just 2 of 13 for the field for 4 points.

CAA Tournament redux



PHILLIP DELANO — THE FLAT HAT

Senior forward Dani Kell

Women's Basketball: Tribe 63, Hofstra 62

The Tribe rallied late to sneak past Hofstra in the first round. CAA all-rookie team member Taysha Pye capped the team's 11-0 run on a game-winning jumper in the lane with 8 seconds left.

Women's Basketball: Tribe 52, VCU 72

VCU, an at-large qualifier to the NCAA Tournament, dominated the Tribe in the quarterfinals. The College's 16-2 run to start the second half couldn't overcome its 25-point halftime deficit.

LACROSSE

College suffers second overtime loss of season

Despite holding a 9-6 lead in the second half, the Tribe falls in overtime to no. 2 Virginia

By JAMISON SHABANOWITZ

Flat Hat Staff Writer

TRIBE 9, No. 2 U. VA. 10

The College of William and Mary has seen it before: a multiple-goal lead on a ranked opponent late in the game. Despite all the team learned during its Feb. 28 double-overtime loss to then-no. 10 Boston University, the Tribe left too much of an opening against no. 2 University of Virginia Tuesday night in Charlottesville. The Cavaliers took advantage, squeaking past the Tribe in overtime for a 10-9 win.

Despite the loss, College Head Coach Christine Halfpenny was pleased with her team's performance

"I couldn't be more proud of our team," Halfpenny said. "This was our best effort all year, but the difference was that we didn't take our best shots down the stretch, and we made one too many execution errors."

The Tribe and the Cavaliers have played every year since 1975, but U. Va. has had the upper-hand recently, winning the last eight meetings after Tuesday's overtime triumph. Tribe sophomore midfielder Grace Golden, sophomore attacker Maggie Anderson, junior attacker Mary Zulty and senior midfielder Claire Dennis scored 2 goals each on starting U. Va. goalkeeper Lauren Benner. But after Dennis' second goal put the Tribe ahead 9-6 with 12:50 remaining, the team failed to

score again. The Cavaliers capitalized with a furious offensive push and shored up their defense by inserting backup goalkeeper Sarah Hairfield into the game.

With the game tied 9-9 and 1:19 remaining in overtime, Cavalier attacker Whit Hagerman bounced the game-winning shot past sophomore goalkeeper Emily Geary.

"Virginia is a good shooting team," Halfpenny said. "Our defense, anchored by Emily, had their best performance of the season by far. Our midfielders had its best performance of the season as well."

Halfpenny called the game a turning point in the Tribe's season. Fresh from a West Coast trip over spring break, where the Tribe beat the University of California-Berkeley and lost to no. 16 Stanford University, Halfpenny has a good feeling about the remainder of the season.

"This is the best I've seen our team since I've been here," she said. "After two heartbreaking overtime losses this year, I have a feeling our team is finally ready to go on a nine-game tear."

The team's cross-country trip improved team chemistry, Halfpenny said. Despite simply not having a good day in an 18-9 loss to Stanford, the College rebounded well against California with a 17-11 victory.

"It was certainly an awesome bonding experience," Halfpenny said.

Next up for the Tribe is former CAA member University of Richmond Monday at 7 p.m. at Albert-Daly Field. The



JOHN QUINN — THE FLAT HAT

had a chance to go a lot of places," Dozier said. "So when I'd go to the games to scout other teams, I'd always take Tiffany."

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CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

Sophomore attacker Ashley Holofcener

College came close to beating in-state rival Richmond in the last two matches, losing 19-10 at Richmond in 2008 and 10-9 in double-overtime at home in 2007.

"I really want to beat Richmond this year," Halfpenny said.